

Award winners. With confidence, I look forward to their leadership in America.

TRIBUTE TO RETIRING MICHIGAN
STATE TROOPER ROBERT KRAFFT

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I like to pay special tribute today to 1st Lieutenant Robert Krafft, who is retiring after a career of law enforcement with Michigan State Police.

As you know, Mr. Speaker, I served as a law enforcement officer. In point of fact, I first served with Bob Krafft early in my own career with the Michigan State Police.

In one sense, my own law enforcement career ended when I was injured in the line of duty and retired in 1984. In a deeper sense, however, the friendships that form among law enforcement officers are bonds that survive changes in careers and changes in address. In that regard, when I founded the Law Enforcement Caucus in my freshman year in Congress, I was not only giving my many comrades in law enforcement a voice in Washington, but I was also giving myself a professional reason to maintain these strong ties to many good friends and providing myself with an opportunity to forge new friendships with dedicated people in law enforcement.

Now, one of these old friends, Bob Krafft, is retiring after a 26-year career.

I recall moving into this neighborhood, where he took me under his wing. My recollections of those first years of our friendship remain vivid, as he took me deer hunting, as I met his wife Sue and watched their daughter grow. Even though our law enforcement work carried us in different directions, the bond we formed as friends, neighbors and law enforcement officers has always dissolved the distance that geography put between us.

Last week here in Washington we spotlighted U.S. law enforcement in a number of ways. We paid special tribute to fallen officers, and we celebrated funding 100,000 new police officers under the Community Policing program.

This Friday, May 21, the co-workers of Bob Krafft will celebrate one man's career in law enforcement. I ask you and my House colleagues to join me in wishing the best in retirement for this dedicated public servant.

A TRIBUTE TO THE ASSOCIATION
FOR THE HELP OF RETARDED
CHILDREN ON ITS 50TH ANNI-
VERSARY

HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Suffolk Association for the Help of Retarded Children, Suffolk County's largest voluntary agency celebrating its 50th anniversary of service to our community. For the past half century the Association for the Help of Retarded Children has lived up to the spirit of community by providing various educational,

vocational training, and habilitative services for residents of Eastern Long Island with special needs.

Through the chapter's Vocational Education Program, adults mature, achieve self-fulfillment and self esteem. Major Long Island corporations use this program's participants for packaging and assembling jobs. These contracts offer 800 clients opportunities to learn vocational skills that can ultimately lead to competitive employment. In the Supported Work Program, individuals successfully make the transition to the job market with the help of job coaches who provide on the job training at the employer's work site, including follow along care.

The Association for the Help of Retarded Children's Sagtikos Education Center is a very special school. More than 100 infants, preschoolers and school-age children through age 21 receive Individualized Education Plans that foster their mental and physical development. School age children attend this school because their disabilities are so severe that they cannot be accommodated within the special education programs of the local school districts. This service allows a parent more free time to maintain both emotional and economic family stability. Other children attend the school's Early Intervention and pre-school programs. These services often diminish, if not eliminate, the need for costly special services for a lifetime.

For lower functioning adults, the Association for the Help of Retarded Children offers a Day Treatment Program that provides habilitative training that fosters greater independence through the acquisition of daily living skills. Their Senior Day Hab Program offers habilitative training through age appropriate activities for senior citizens. Sixteen community residences located throughout Suffolk are each home to up to 10 adults, operating as a family unit under the guidance of a house parenting team. Residents interact with their communities as any typical family does: shopping, banking, visiting the library and even going to work.

After 50 years of operation, the Suffolk chapter is known for its fiscal integrity. It is so well managed by a voluntary Board of Directors and its Executive Director that it consistently rates "exceptional" in Federal, State and County adults, and is granted three year operating certificates rather than the usual one year.

That is why I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in saluting the Association for the Help of Retarded Children on its 50th anniversary. For half a century, the Association for the Help of Retarded Children has done more than just help neighbors who need it, or provide opportunities for their children. The Association for the Help of Retarded Children has also provided our community the opportunity to express their strong love for their community by getting involved and by helping their neighbors.

IN MEMORIAM: DEDICATION OF
THE GARDEN GROVE POLICE DE-
PARTMENT "CALL TO DUTY" PO-
LICE MEMORIAL, MAY 20, 1999

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to the officers of the Garden Grove Police Department who died in the line of duty and who will be commemorated in the dedication of the Garden Grove Police Memorial, "Call To Duty" on this twentieth day of May, 1999.

There are few words that adequately express the deep sorrow and grief of a family whose loved one has been killed in the line of duty. We can remember their bravery and courage through dedication and memorial. President Abraham Lincoln perhaps described the terrible emptiness and regret that we, the living, feel for those who have given their lives to protect others. In the famous Gettysburg address, Lincoln summarizes these feelings in a most profound way:

It is for the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us—that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion—that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain . . ."

Let us pay tribute to the five brave men who gave their "last full measure of devotion" to the community that they were protecting: Myron Trapp, October 6, 1959; Andy Reese, May 30, 1970; Donald Reed, June 7, 1980; Michael Rainford, November 7, 1980; and Howard Dallies, Jr., March 9, 1993. Let us not forget their heroism, their loyalty, and their dedication to duty.

COLUMBIA DEERING HOSPITAL
CELEBRATES SENIOR FRIENDS
AND FITNESS DAY

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, senior citizens have always served as the cornerstone of our country's population and as America's aging generation continues to rapidly increase, the health and well being of our nation's elderly becomes more and more important.

The Senior Friends Chapter at Columbia Deering Hospital has recognized the importance of fitness among the senior population and are taking the initiative of spearheading Senior Health and Fitness Day in Miami-Dade County, Florida.

Exercise has been clinically proven to help fight many ailments that affect seniors, such

as osteoporosis, heart disease, and arthritis, and is highly recommended to improve the overall quality of life at any age. On May 26, the Senior Friends Chapter at Deering Hospital will host activities such as fitness walks, exercise demonstrations, health screenings, and health information workshops to educate Miami's seniors about the many benefits of fitness and to encourage their participation in a more active lifestyle.

I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to The Senior Friends Chapter for their focus on senior's health.

DEFENSE INDUSTRIAL SUPPLY CENTER TO BE DISESTABLISHED

HON. ROBERT A. BORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Mr. BORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to announce that the Defense Industrial Supply Center (DISC) in my district will be disestablished in a fitting ceremony on July 2, 1999. In accordance with the Base Realignment and Closure Commission, DISC and its hard working employees will continue their mission as a part of a new organization, the Defense Supply Center Philadelphia.

Established as a field activity of the Defense Logistics Agency on April 1, 1962, DISC has for over three decades combined professional personnel talent with modern management techniques to provide its military customers throughout the world with responsive logistic support.

DISC items were used by all the services in support of their multimillion dollar weapon systems, such as, the Trident, Patriot and Minuteman III missiles; the Black Hawk and Apache helicopters; the Abrams tank; the Eagle, Hornet and Harrier aircraft; the *Ohio* and *Los Angeles* Class submarines; the AEGIS Class cruisers; and the *Nimitz* Class aircraft carriers, as well as certain NASA space programs. In addition to supplying vital parts to our Armed Forces, DISC also provided emergency support in times of disaster.

From its headquarters in Northeast Philadelphia, DISC military and civilian personnel maintained a constant flow of critical items 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to satisfy the supply needs of the military services. The Center was responsible for the wholesale support of industrial and commercial type items to the military services. These items included plumbing, wood products, material handling and facilities maintenance supplies, marine safety and fire fighting equipment, food service equipment, imaging and information supplies, as well as bearings, rope, cable and fittings, fasteners, hardware, packing and gasket materials, springs and rings, metal bars, sheets and shapes, electrical wire and cable, as well as certain ores, minerals and precious metals.

Active in Philadelphia community affairs, DISC employees participated in numerous civic activities in and around the Delaware Valley. Many employees have earned wide recognition for their volunteer work in personal one-to-one relationships with the young, the old, and the needy through such programs as Project Reachout and Project Give. The employees are also key members and leaders in a host of other community groups and asso-

ciations, such as Boy and Girl Scouts; Little League; United Way; and in church, veterans and civic organizations where they participate in many activities of benefit to the greater Philadelphia area.

DISC has earned the privilege to fly the Minuteman flag each year of its existence through U.S. Saving Bonds participation. This is a unique record unequaled by any other major Federal Activity.

As the Defense Industrial Supply Center Colors are lowered for the last time, I personally extend my sincere praise and appreciation to Nicholas J. Ranalli, DISC's Administrator, and to all military and civilian employees, past and present, who have been providing dedicated service to our military personnel around the world since 1962.

The people of Philadelphia and the Nation can take justifiable pride in a fine job well done and to look forward to the continuation of DISC's vital role in the defense efforts of our country when the mission of the Defense Industrial Supply Center conjoins its operation with the Defense Supply Center Philadelphia.

TRIBUTE TO BEN TOM ROBERTS

HON. SONNY CALLAHAN

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Mr. CALLAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a friend and an important constituent from the First District of Alabama who will be in my office Thursday on the occasion of his 50th birthday.

Ben Tom Roberts is the current president of the Alabama Association of Realtors (AAR). In addition, he is a principle in Roberts Brothers, Inc., a family-owned business that for more than 53 years has been serving the real estate needs of generations of south Alabamians.

Ben Tom's motivation and inherent knowledge of the real estate industry has propelled him to one of the foremost leaders in his field. Not only is he co-owner of Mobile's largest real estate firm, he has also served as president of the Mobile Area Association of Realtors as well as state president of the Real Estate Securities and Syndication Institute. Clearly, real estate is in Ben Tom's blood and the real estate industry in Alabama is truly benefitting from his leadership, as well as his considerable experiences.

In addition to Ben Tom's service to the industry, he is actively involved in the life of our community. From the American Cancer Society to the United Way, Ben Tom's philanthropy has truly spanned the alphabet. It is fair to say he has given generously of his time and talents in the service of his fellow man.

In recent years, Ben Tom has held numerous leadership posts, serving as vice chairman of the Mobile Chamber of Commerce and past president of the Country Club of Mobile, the Chandler YMCA and the Metropolitan YMCA. In addition, he serves on many boards, including Southtrust Bank, the Old Overton Club and the Alabama Golf Association.

Ben Tom, and his lovely wife Gale, are active members of St. Ignatius Catholic Church in Mobile, where he is serving as chairman of the Stephen Ministries. Mr. Speaker, as 50 candles light Ben Tom's birthday cake, I ask

you to join me in congratulating him on his outstanding achievements in the real estate arena, and his support of charitable causes and community organizations in Mobile and throughout the state of Alabama.

INTRODUCTION OF THE PUBLIC HEARING STANDARDIZATION ACT

HON. JAMES V. HANSEN

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, it is with pleasure that I am introducing the Public Hearing Standardization Act of 1999. This Act is needed so that the general public can meaningfully contribute to the process used by federal agencies to obtain public input. Currently, public hearings provide a process to the general public so that their comments and input can become part of the official record. However, because many of the public's questions remain unanswered by federal agencies, this process has been disappointing for many who attend these hearings. Public hearings should also provide a forum for the public to ask questions of the federal agencies and for the public to receive from the federal agencies meaningful responses to questions as part of the official record.

Presently, public hearings conducted by federal agencies do not have any standard format nor parameters as to how they are conducted. As a result, federal agencies have total discretion in setting rules for public hearings. Unfortunately, these rules frequently do not require the federal agencies to respond to legitimate questions asked by the public. This bill intends, therefore, to standardize the procedures used by federal agencies for public hearings so that the public understands the rules in conducting such public hearings and can respond appropriately. It will also give the public a chance to ask relevant questions and also a reasonable expectation of receiving an honest answer from federal agencies.

This is a long-overdue bill which will give the public beneficial information in regard to federal agency land management. The public deserves to have questions answered by federal agencies in a public forum and this bill, among other things, will make sure that the public has this chance. I urge all my colleagues to support and co-sponsor the Public Hearing Standardization Act of 1999.

HONORING THE VICTORIA HIGH SCHOOL VICTORIADORES, VIC- TORIA, TX

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay honor to the best drill team in the nation and in the world: the Victoria High School Victoriadores from Victoria, Texas. Under the exemplary leadership of D.J. Jaynes, Victoriadore Director, assisted by Laura Klimist, Choreographer, this outstanding group of ladies and gentlemen won many national honors at the marching Auxiliaries/Seaworld